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**Association of**  
**Michigan Universities**

# Memo

**To:** Honorable Lorence Wenke and Committee Members, House Standing  
Committee on Higher Education

**From:** John M. Leech, Chairperson, Association of Michigan Universities

Tarek Baydoun, Legislative Affairs Commissioner, Association of Michigan  
Universities

**Date:** February 2, 2005

**Re:** Higher Education in Michigan

The Association of Michigan Universities (AMU) would like to offer our congratulations on your recent election or re-election to the service of Michigan's citizens. The AMU is a student-run assembly that comprises of representatives from of each of the "Michigan Fifteen" publicly funded state universities and their student governing bodies. The AMU was established in November of 2000 at the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor and after the ratification of a constitution in February of 2001 at Lake Superior State, a unified voice for the students was born. To date, the AMU represents nearly 300,000 students attending public universities in Michigan. In addition to past advocacy efforts and initiatives concerning students of higher education, the AMU is a member of the *K-16 Coalition for Michigan's Future* and has worked closely with the Presidents Council, State Universities of Michigan.

The AMU recognizes the challenging road ahead for Michigan's educational future and wishes to expand our role as a resource to the Higher Education Standing Committee. My colleagues and I will be contacting your offices in the near future to offer an opportunity to meet with student leaders from around the state.

Thank you and good luck with this afternoon's proceedings.